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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/577,306	05/24/2000	Bastiaan Hendrik Bakker	F3238(C)	4727

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UNILEVER
PATENT DEPARTMENT
45 RIVER ROAD
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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

SORKIN, DAVID L

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

1723

DATE MAILED: 08/02/2002

19

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/577,306 Examiner David L. Sorkin	BAKKER ET AL. Art Unit 1723

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 24 July 2002 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b])

- a) The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on 24 July 2002. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
 - (a) they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 - (b) they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
 - (c) they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 - (d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____.

3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. The a) affidavit, b) exhibit, or c) request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: _____.
6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) will not be entered or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: 1-12 and 15-19.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: 13 and 14.

8. The proposed drawing correction filed on 24 July 2002 is a)a) approved or b) disapproved by the Examiner.
9. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s)(PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.
10. Other: _____.

'DETAILED ACTION

1. The proposed amendment would cancel each of the previous independent claims and introduce several new independent claims. Each of the new independent claims requires "A single screw [extruder]", while none of the previous independent claims included such a limitation. The proposed limitation would require further search and consideration, because previously not considered combinations of limitations are included in the proposed claims.
2. It is noted that proposed claim 20 recites a "Single screw comprising", rather than a "single screw extruder comprises", causing lack of antecedent basis problems.
3. It is noted regarding Hunchar ('209), that the range applicant chooses to characterize as an "extreme range", is designated by the reference as a particularly preferred or most preferred range.
4. The examiner disputes applicant's accusation that "an extreme hypothetical embodiment (a screw having a pitch equal to 2.4 times the diameter)" has been relied upon. While the reference discloses that the range "0.4 to 2.4" is "preferred", applicant's "preferable" range not only overlaps this "preferred" range, but also the reference's "particularly" preferred range of "1.2 – 2.0". While applicant's proposed claims would not overlap the "most preferred" range of the reference of "1.5-1.7", some of the current claims do.
5. Applicant has explained that the various screw parameters are not necessarily constant. This further emphasizes the nature of the indefiniteness of the claims. For example, suppose one attempts to determine a "Sp/Pi.De" value. When one measures

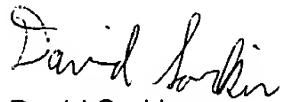
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the pitch length between two appropriate points of a flight, which of the potentially infinite values of De between the two points does one select for the denominator of the ratio?

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David L. Sorkin whose telephone number is 703-308-1121. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 -5:30 Mon.-Fri..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wanda L. Walker can be reached on 703-308-0457. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9310 for regular communications and 703-872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.


David Sorkin

July 31, 2002



CHARLES E. COOLEY
PRIMARY EXAMINER